

Westview Baptist Church

www.westview-baptists.info

“people learning to live Jesus’ way”

8th September, 2013

Our purpose is to bring glory to God. We will do this as we:

1. are transformed by enjoying Christ;
 2. love by serving others; and
 3. proclaim Jesus by faithfully living in a fallen world
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Transformed by Enjoying Christ

Teaching Series - What we believe - What are the aspects of church life we observe?

The teaching today will be broken into two sections. JJ will lead our thinking on Baptism and the Lord's Supper (Communion) which are well known practices of not just our church at Westview but of the Christian faith all over the world for two thousand years. But what are they? And why do we do them? This morning we will be having a brief look at these questions and seek to understand the wonderful blessing and help they can be for us today.

Then Bob will bring before the church some thoughts about “Giving at Westview”. The Elders/Deacons have been considering these issues lately and we have asked Bob to present some of our thinking.

Love and Service

Family News and Prayers

It is hoped that by today that Nellie will have been released from hospital. She has been moving around well after her extended stay in hospital. Pray for continued recovery.

Freddie's mum had a trip to hospital this week suffering from angina. We thank God that she was soon discharged.

Living Faithfully in Our World

Walk to Water

It's now less than 1 week to our Walk to Water-14th Sept, not too late to do the walk (see Wendy) or just as importantly, encourage the walkers by sponsoring an individual or the whole group online at <http://walktowater.org.au/walk/89> or sponsor a walker in person over the coming weeks. A free sausage sizzle for the walkers will commence from 11am, please join us with your BYO lunch at the Lorikeet picnic area at Nurragingy and perhaps a treat you'd like to share with the walkers on their return.

" We're so happy to have this borehole! because God has done this for us we believe that he can do bigger things and it really gives us hope." Rev Ndul

"The borehole is also frequently used by Muslims from nearby villages, and the Christians consider it an opportunity to show the love of Christ by welcoming them." Open Doors

Prayer for Christians in Pakistan

As a strong Christian, high achieving university student in Lahore, Rabeel (21) faced constant pressure to convert to Islam. As he resisted, persecution escalated. Eventually, a trusted Muslim friend betrayed Rabeel to the terror group Lashkar-e-Taiba. Over three days, Rabeel was plied with drugs, beaten, electrocuted and pack-raped as the militants sought to convert him to Islam and use him in a terror attack against the West. When his family found him, Rabeel was horribly wounded and severely traumatised. As a Christian marked by Lashkar-e-Taiba, it proved not only difficult to get medical treatment but impossible to get medical reports and police support. Forced to flee, this family of seven has been languishing in a refugee camp for the past 10 months; Rabeel is fading. Please pray. (Source: [Religious Liberty Prayer Bulletin](#))

Teaching Notes

What is Baptism?

Why do we do it?

Obedience not Maturity

Repentance, Faith and Commitment

Symbol of Inward work of the Spirit and Union with Christ

What is the Lord's Supper?

Why do we do it?

Remembrance

Proclamation

Participation

Giving in Westview

What are you giving, to whom, and why?

Some Principles from Above

You cannot give money or material things to God!

- He already owns everything!

What does He want done with what HE gives US?

- His top priority is the **Glory of Christ** and the **advancement of His Kingdom.**
- A committed covenant Community of Faith in Jesus Christ as Lord, such as Westview Baptist Church, is to be a local expression – a “*working model*” – of His Kingdom – here and now, while we wait and watch for the King to return!
- In the meantime, God has given this church **all we need in order to do what He wants us to do!** Gifts of persons, talents, time, money, goods. **But they are given to each of us to manage for Him!**

- **How are we to model the Kingdom of God and of His Christ?**
- For the way to go, see Luke 12:31-36; Romans 12:4-21 – 13:10; Deuteronomy 14:22-29 for starters!
- **We are to celebrate who we are** under the goodness of our God by feasting, taking time off work, remembering how He has rescued us from darkness in the ‘other’ kingdom;
- **We are to care for one another**, materially as well as spiritually, especially supporting our pastors, and watching out for our needy, our weaker or more vulnerable members;
- **We are to work at our King’s Commission** - investing time and money in fulfilling it – Matthew 28:18-20;
- **We are to pay our taxes and dues to our “Caesar”** – our governing authorities, as good citizens of Australia.

Some Facts...

No one else supports us!

- We get **no support** from the government;
- We get **no support** from the Baptist Union;
- ***It's all down to us!!***
- We can give our money by **putting it in the Collection Box** near the door;
- We can give our money **electronically** at:
***'Westview Baptist Church', BSB: 704 922;
Account Number: 100003291.*** [This is
printed in the weekly Bulletin]

We make an annual Budget

- **The Admin Team** [our Administrator and Treasurer] in company with the deacons and elders make up the Budget aiming to cover what we believe God wants us to be doing as a community of His Kingdom;
- **This Budget is brought to a WRAP meeting**

for us all to consider its costs and to make any changes if we want until we are happy it's right for us.

- The church then accepts what this Budget will cost us over the year; ***that we can and will try to meet it responsibly.***

We are not meeting it! We are using up our reserves. This cannot go on!

- At the last WRAP meeting our income was nearly **\$8000** less than our expenditure. ***What can we do?***
- We can cut items down or out of the Budget.
What items?
- ***We can give more money to meet the Budget!***

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Electronic Giving: 'Westview Baptist Church' BSB: 704 922 Acc't:100003291

www.whereisgodinmylife.com ... because life sometimes gets out of control.
